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such that the first principal material direction radiates at least partially outwardly from the channel towards the rearward end of the sabot.

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 6 and 8 through 17 stand rejected with claim 7 objected to in the outstanding Official Action. As amended, claims 1 through 17 remain in the application.

The examiner is correct in noting that the U.S. application was filed more than twelve months after the filing of the corresponding British application.

The drawings stand objected to in that Figures 1 and 2 should be designated as "PRIOR ART." Applicant encloses herewith a proposed drawing correction with respect to Figures 1 and 2 labelling them as "PRIOR ART." Upon approval of the proposed drawing correction and receipt of a Notice of Allowance, application will submit corrected formal drawings. Applicant respectfully requests the drawing correction requirement be held in abeyance pending receipt of such Notice of Allowance.

Claims 1 through 6 and 8 through 17 stand rejected under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 102(e). It is noted that the examiner has suggested the inclusion of the limitation "outwardly" with respect to the first principal direction recited in applicant's independent claim. Applicant agrees that the inclusion of this limitation will clearly define

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over the Puckett reference. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 17 to include this limitation. However, because all materials do not have to be oriented in this direction and indeed applicant's Figure 4 illustrates some fibres which are parallel to the longitudinal axis of the penetrator, claims 1 and 17 have been amended to recite "at least partially" with respect to both the first principal material direction and with respect to the material comprising the sabot itself.

Inasmuch as applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 17 as suggested by the Patent Office, it is submitted that these claims clearly and patentably distinguish over Puckett (U.S. Patent 4,958,571) and any further rejection under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 102 is respectfully traversed.

The examiner's indication that claim 7 is objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form is appreciated. Claim 7 has been made independent by incorporating the limitations of claims 1 and 5 into claim 7. Accordingly, claim 7, as amended, is believed allowable as well.

Inasmuch as independent claims 1, 7 and 17 are now believed allowable, it is submitted that all other claims are dependent upon one of these allowable independent claims and, therefore, there is no basis for a rejection of any claims in this application.

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Having responded to all objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding Official Action, it is submitted that claims 1 through 17 are in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. In the event the examiner is of the opinion that a brief telephone or personal interview will facilitate allowance of the above claims, he is respectfully requested to contact applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYTE P.C.

By: 

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Enclosures:

Proposed Formal Drawings

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